Letting the Love Carry On

Recipes for the Holidays

Success Achieved Happy New Year

Writing Package Time

and Lots More!!!!
Scholarship Winners Spotlight

Michael Parker is the current Chapter President at Edgecombe Community College. He is a Business Administration major and is involved in numerous extracurricular organizations such as Phi Theta Kappa, Phi Beta Lambda, the EMPAC Program (Empowering Males with a Purpose to Achieve and Celebrate), and the Student Government Association. He also spends his time being the Library Resource Center’s student representative for the Rocky Mount campus. When asked about what winning the “Papa” John Fellowship Scholarship has meant to him, Michael responded with: “Achieving the “Papa” John Fellowship Scholarship has truly transformed my status as a Phi Theta Kappa Scholar, as being the first between the Carolinas to win our only two scholarships. The “Papa” John Scholarship has given me a strong sense of conviction that has been revealed to me which is, “If there is anything I truly desire, and am willing to work hard for in life, then I will achieve my objectives through positivity and determination.” Being embraced by “Papa” John as the award-winning recipient of the “Papa” John Scholarship on Sunday, October 28th 2018, at Fayetteville Technical Community College, along with my chapter members, other chapter advisors, and alumni, gave me a sense of clarity that I belonged and was a part of an extended family, which is not just based on academic principles, but based upon service to our communities as well as providing our services to one another through, “Wisdom, Aspiration, and Purity.” I will always be grateful to Phi Theta Kappa for giving me the tools to become successful within its organization such as communication skills, academic influences, and dignity, which I intend on displaying throughout the rest of my life. Thanks to the solidarity within Phi Theta Kappa and the “Papa” John Scholarship, I now know that I can become successful regardless of my surroundings.” Michael Parker is beyond deserving of the “Papa” John Scholarship and we are very proud to have him within our family!

Selena Jimenez is a first-generation student who has always believed that school is the best path in discovering who you are. Selena became a servant leader through many of the extraordinary people she has met on her campus. She stated that they have taught her why they help their community and why they are so grateful to do so. Selena is a current student at Forsyth Technical Community College and is set to graduate very soon. She is unsure which university she will be attending or the major she will be pursuing, but she does know for sure that she wants to continue her education and focus on something that will help those around her. She has always had the dream of creating something that will make the lives of others easier, help better the ecosystem, lower energy consumption, and make the world a better place. We wish you the best of luck Selena and we hope you can change the world for all of us! When asked about what winning the Joan S. Keller Servant-Leadership Scholarship meant to her, Selena said: “When I heard that I was chosen as the recipient of the Joan Keller Servant-Leadership Award from the Alpha Omega Alumni I literally jumped for joy. That week, I had finished a majority of my university applications. The only problem I had was the cost of attendance for the universities.
After receiving the scholarship, I realized there will always be obstacles when someone is going after a dream but if they work hard enough and with the help of others, those obstacles will be diminished. I am happy I earned the Joan Keller Servant-Leadership Award, happy for the amazing people who wrote my recommendation letters and am extremely happy and grateful for the people who sponsored the awards such as the one I received. The Joan Keller Servant-Leadership Award has brought me a step closer in attending a four-year university and working to make other individuals better their lives.”

Thank you very much to all of our applicants that applied for both of our scholarships and thank you to both Michael and Selena for being the amazing people that you are! We wish you both the best of luck with your future endeavors. On a final note, remember that we will be award both scholarships every year, and we encourage every single one of our amazing members to apply!
This leadership conference was the exemplification of leadership to me. The helium stick exercises proved to me that in order to be an effective leader you must give diligent attention to your team to discover their strengths and weaknesses so that you can both encourage their strengths and rectify their weaknesses. The other leadership exercises in which we received written directions to tie a shoe or construct a paper airplane were enlightening because it proved just how imperative that it is to listen and understand the instructions before you attempt to execute them. Many times in life, confusion, anger, resentment, and mistakes and fallacies all arise from an improper prior understanding and comprehension of the details of the subject in question! Furthermore, I thoroughly enjoyed the presentations by Div. 1 International Vice President, Carol Comer!

The activity with the values cards positively affirmed to me my true core values and even increased my awareness of the fact that everyone has core values whether they know it or not; and to better my relationships with others, I should understand and be aware of their values so that I can further enrich their lives and treat them gracefully. The other presentation on scholarships that Carol provided was worth every sacrifice it took to attend. She taught us step by step the proper way to write the essay such that it properly answers the question of the prompt and provide quantifiable data and assessment of the issue that you rectified through your servant leadership endeavor! She warned us that most people never fully read or understand what the prompt is asking them therefore they provide incomplete and irrelevant information in their essay; and that most fail to provide enough solid quantifiable data of their results; they never show exactly HOW they made an actual difference in their community or state or the world! After hearing these amazing tips, I feel quite confident with writing my essays for many scholarships that I have access to through Phi Theta Kappa! Lastly, the workshops that we, the regional officers hosted about RO campaigns and Five Star Competitive Edge were such a pleasure for me to do; it inspires me greatly to be able to encourage other people to run for regional officer and win so that can increase their emotional intelligence and literally watch themselves be transformed into a true leader--a servant leader! Leadership Conference 2018 was a phenomenal experience and I desire that other students from Pitt Community College, Beta Nu Upsilon, attend next year and be transformed into the greatness that they were born to be! That greatness is who we are! I am Phi Theta Kappa.
Hello, Carolinas! Your advisors were busy this year! They celebrated chapter successes with you, worked toward becoming Five Star Advisors, traveled with you to conferences, and took the time to host and attend special advisor information sessions. Advisors from nine different chapters attended sessions in Durham, North Carolina and Spartanburg, South Carolina, where they met other advisors, asked questions, and learned about Phi Theta Kappa. Each attendee received a 2018 Chapter Advisor Reference Manual containing important information for new and seasoned advisors. We’ll be holding additional sessions in 2019, too. The first is at Catawba Valley Community College in Hickory, NC on Friday, April 12 and the second is Friday, April 26 at Carteret Community College in Morehead City, NC.

Advisors are special and deserve all the thanks we can give them. Did you know most don’t receive compensation for volunteering their time to help others? They accepted an additional challenge this year, as well. The Five Star Advisor Plan was introduced in 2018. To date, 39 Carolinas Region advisors started the program and 22 completed all 5 levels! The following advisors are to be commended for achieving 5 Star Advisor status this year:

Jennifer Jones, Alamance Community College
Lisa Osborne, Bermuda College
Stella Galyean, Blue Ridge Community College
Melissa McCarraher, Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute
Becky Finken, Central Carolina Community College
Rodney Powell, Central Carolina Community College
Kathryn Amerson, Craven Community College
Edward Sabat, Craven Community College
Sharon Carter, Davidson County Community College
Kimberly Boyce, Durham Technical Community College
Peter Chiodo, Fayetteville Technical Community College
Heather Jones, Horry-Georgetown Technical College
Leila Rogers, Horry-Georgetown Technical College
John Sharpe, Horry-Georgetown Technical College
Wendy Samuel, Midlands Technical College
Tamara Miles, Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College
Janie Ivey, Spartanburg Community College
Melissa Morton, Spartanburg Community College
Allison Horrell, Spartanburg Community College
The Carolinas Region Officer Team would like to say Happy New Year. We hope you all had joyous Holidays and a safe and festive New Year. Some people set personal goals for the New Year, but we also wanted to set some goals for the region.

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Goal #1 – Stephanie would like the Carolinas Region to continue excelling in Competitive Edge, work towards completing and sharing news about Phi Theta Kappa’s new Transfer Edge program, and an increase in Five Star Chapters.

Goal #2 – George would like to see a new wave of servant leadership within the Carolinas Region, an intense focus on membership recruitment to increase and sustain chapter and regional activity.

Goal #3 – Jason would like to see more members of the Carolinas Region step up and run for Chapter and/or Regional Office positions, in hopes to develop stronger leadership and team building skills.

Goal #4 – Haile would like members of the Carolinas Region to continue sharing their success stories, giving other chapters aid and encouragement in developing more creative projects.

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Though we have little time left in office, we are excited to watch the Carolinas Region grow bigger and stronger. We want to thank you for all your love and support and we hope to see you at the Carolinas Regional Convention in Columbia, SC and/or Phi Theta Kappa’s Annual Convention in Orlando, FL.

#CROSS18
It is that time where we are completing our write up packages about our honors in action project and college project. If you have not started yet, then please call your chapter over for a get together. I would like to advise that you all use the tools that are out there for you such as the library guide created for honors in action that is located on our regional website. Another key tool to use is the honors guide. If you do not have a copy handy, then go to ptk.org to download a copy. It is time to call everyone in your chapter, especially those that have participated in any part. They will have knowledge to share with those who are going to write. I cannot express follow the guide and the rubric enough. The rubric explains exactly what the judges are looking for. Make sure you touch on everything the rubric asks. You have done the work, now write about it! Good luck! Looking forward to seeing you all soon.

Don’t forget when you submit it, download a pdf copy to save for next year! That way your chapter knows what was accomplished and what was left undone!

“No matter what people tell you, words and ideas can change the world.”
–Robin Williams
Making Large Strides

The Tau Beta Chapter of Davidson County Community College has been busy this semester participating in several events on campus. We have collected art supplies for the local community. In addition, we completed our Adopt-A-Highway clean up in the beautiful rainy weather and collected several bags of trash. We have been busy working on completing our HiA project and College Project, recruiting new members, and assisted with our college’s Open House. We have also added an additional advisor, Ricky Swing, who was the former Carolinas Region President.
Black Forest Tart

Ingredients

- 1-1/4 cups chocolate wafer crumbs
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 1/4 cup butter, melted
- **FILLING:**
  - 1/2 cup butter
  - 6 ounces semisweet chocolate, chopped
  - 3 large eggs, room temperature
  - 2/3 cup sugar
  - 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
  - 1/4 teaspoon salt
  - 2/3 cup all-purpose flour
- **TOPPING:**
  - 1 can (21 ounces) cherry pie filling
  - 2 ounces semisweet chocolate, chopped
  - 1 tablespoon heavy whipping cream

Directions

- In a small bowl, combine wafer crumbs and sugar; stir in butter. Press onto the bottom and up the sides of a lightly greased 11-in. fluted tart pan with removable bottom.

- Place pan on a baking sheet. Bake at 350° until lightly browned, 8-10 minutes. Cool on a wire rack.

- In a microwave, melt butter and chocolate; stir until smooth. Cool for 10 minutes. In a large bowl, beat the eggs, sugar, vanilla and salt until thickened, about 4 minutes. Blend in chocolate mixture. Stir in flour and mix well.

- Pour into crust; spread evenly. Bake at 350° until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean, 25-30 minutes. Cool completely on a wire rack. Spread pie filling over the top.

- In a microwave, melt chocolate and cream; stir until smooth. Cool for 5 minutes, stirring occasionally. Drizzle over tart. Chill until set.
**Marbles Cappuccino Fudge Cheesecake**

**Ingredients**

- 1-1/2 cups chocolate graham cracker crumbs (about 8 whole crackers)
- 3 tablespoons sugar
- 1/4 cup butter, melted
- **FILLING:**
  - 4 packages (8 ounces each) cream cheese, softened
  - 1-1/4 cups sugar
  - 1/4 cup heavy whipping cream
  - 3 tablespoons double mocha cappuccino mix
  - 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
  - 1-1/2 teaspoons vanilla extract
  - 3 large eggs, lightly beaten
  - 2/3 cup hot fudge ice cream topping, warmed
- **CAPPUCCINO CREAM TOPPING:**
  - 1 cup heavy whipping cream
  - 2 tablespoons double mocha cappuccino mix
  - 1 tablespoon confectioners' sugar
  - Chocolate curls, optional

**Directions**

- Place a greased 9-in. springform pan on a double thickness of heavy-duty foil (about 18 in. square). Securely wrap foil around pan.

- In a small bowl, combine the cracker crumbs, sugar and butter. Press onto the bottom and 2 in. up the sides of prepared pan. Place pan on a baking sheet. Bake at 325° for 7-9 minutes. Cool on a wire rack.

- In a large bowl, beat cream cheese and sugar until smooth. Beat in the cream, cappuccino mix, flour and vanilla. Add eggs; beat on low speed just until combined. Pour half of batter into crust. Drizzle with 1/3 cup fudge topping. Repeat layers. Cut through batter with a knife to swirl fudge topping. Place springform pan in a large baking pan; add 1 in. of hot water to larger pan.

- Bake at 325° for 70-80 minutes or until center is just set and top appears dull. Remove springform pan from water bath. Cool on a wire rack for 10 minutes. Carefully run a knife around edge of pan to loosen; cool 1 hour longer. Refrigerate overnight. Remove sides of pan.

- For topping, in a small bowl, beat cream until it begins to thicken. Add cappuccino mix and confectioners' sugar; beat until soft peaks form. Spread over cheesecake. Garnish with chocolate curls if desired.
Alpha Chi Sigma, Cape Fear Community College, has had the opportunity to participate in a unique service project this year, volunteering at a Bird Sanctuary! Not only does the sanctuary host over 500 species of birds, it houses many other unique animals such as llamas, alpacas, sheep, etc. It has proven to be an exciting and fun adventure. The second Saturday of every month we would spend about 4 hours helping them with a multitude of projects. Since, the sanctuary is a non-profit organization they rely on the help of public donations and volunteers to keep the facility running. One of the projects that we did was painting different areas outside the facility to give the building a pick me up, and wouldn’t you know even the animals were getting excited! Our advisor was able to make a new alpaca friend. It was almost as if they wanted to be a part of our fantastic service project that also allowed us to have a fellowship opportunity, working together while learning more about one another.
"Oh, you are a student at UNC?"- "No, I go to Durham Tech!" I have had this conversation at least two dozen times, but the feeling that people are judging me and the need to defend myself, "...but I want to transfer next year." is always the same. The negative stigmas of community colleges are widespread, yet most of them are just a creation of misconception and lack of information.

Due to low tuition fees and high acceptance rates, many people question the quality of education offered at two-year institutions. How can we blame them? The common understanding is that you get what you pay for, right!? Not always! I am going to eliminate the three biggest misconceptions of community colleges: unqualified faculty, low success, and non-traditional students.

FACULTY: The faculty at community colleges must have either a master’s degree or the equivalent knowledge gained through field experience and professional certifications. Unlike other instructors who began teaching for compensatory or research purposes, the majority of community college faculty chose this career to help students reach their goals and improve their lives. Many professors who teach at four-year institutions simultaneously teach at two-year institutions. In fact, one can argue that the quality of these classes might be higher, because of the smaller sizes and one-on-one interaction with the professors that students at larger universities may miss. My economics professor, who also teaches at NC-State, knows the name of every student in his class and takes time to answer questions during his daily office hours.

SUCCESS: A study which examined the performance of students at community colleges vs. four-year institutions comparably showed that there was little difference in the attrition and success rate between freshmen entry and two-year transfer students (Aulck & West 2017). What stands out, however, is the low completion rate of two-year transfer students. What must be considered, is that many students come from families with an income of less than $30 000 per year (Levy 2016). Therefore, most of them are forced to prioritize work and study part-time. I think it’s impressive how some of my fellow students have two or more jobs and still manage to get good grades at the end of the semester.
STUDENTS: While it is true that community colleges offer special programs for adults who wish to continue their education and high school students that wish to work on their college degrees concurrently with their high school diplomas, these are only two aspects of the community college student demographic. The average age of students in two-year institutions is 28 years (Jack 2017). Most of my classmates are my age but I learned that having classmates with life experience can be beneficial and helps make the younger ones think more critically.

If I would have to choose again I would do it the exact same way. My time at Durham Tech made me a better person by being exposed to great diversity and people from different backgrounds. My instructors always had an open ear for my question and even offered their free time to help me with scholarship applications. I hope that people will start to understand the values of a community college and the chances it offers.

~ Durham Technical Community College
Have you ever wondered if your school was haunted? For years, rumors of ghostly happenings have circulated on the campus of Catawba Valley Community College. Back in 2013, Beta Eta Delta, CVCC’s Phi Theta Kappa chapter, decided to investigate. The chapter held a critical thinking event for students and investigated the claims. The event was so popular, this year, a professional paranormal group, First in Fright Paranormal was brought in and the Ghost Hunt was opened to the public as a fund raiser for the chapter.

Since August, one Saturday night a month, chapter members have investigated 4 areas on campus with claims of paranormal activity. The last ghost hunt for the year is scheduled for December 15th. Chapter members have learned how to use some of the tools of the trade and enjoyed leading the community across campus.

~ Catawba Valley Community College
Hurricane Florence came through and upset the college schedule by about three weeks. Wow a three week vacation! No a three week clean up and then when school got back in it was a three week catch up. Not just for classes but for our PTK schedule also. Three weeks no project, meeting, or research. Many students did not have internet for longer than this so it means being at school to do all you online work.

Then we had a light in the darkness. The Carolina’s Regional PTK brought us hurricane relief supplies at the Leadership Conference this year in Fayetteville. This included food, clothing and school supplies to share with the students that were impacted by the storm. They really filled the van up. Then Dr. Rodney Powell agree to be the speaker for our Induction. That was being hurried alone with less planning time. Beta Epsilon Chi would like to say Thank You to all the support our region gives us. Whether in an emergency or just in everyday help with our questions, and paperwork.

Thank You

~ Beta Epsilon Chi